STRANGE AND Wonderful Newvs FROM London-VVall,

BEING

A Full and True Relation of a House miserably disturb'd ever since *Fryday* the Third of this Instant *April*, where Bedding, Linnen, Apparel, and Household-stuff of great Value, have at several Times, both in the Day and Night, been Cut to Pieces by Invisible Means; Knives Removed out of a Drawer in the Kitchin, and scattered in the Chambers and Garret; and things fast lock't up in Trunks and Chests, Cut and Spoiled in an unheard of Manner.

As also how the Minister of the Parish, and several other worthy Persons, being at Prayer there on *Munday* the Sixth Instant, the Cloaths of a Child in the Room with them, were on a sudden taken off Invisibly to their great Amazement, and several other admirable Particulars there Transacted,

Of the Truth of which you may be further satisfied by the Inhabitants.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

A STRANGE RELATION OF A House disturb'd at *London*-Wall, &c.

THough the Learned in their Metaphysical speculations, have endeavored what they can to trace and discover the Nature of Spirits, yet since knowledg generally arrives to the mind of man by the mediation of the senses, whose apprehension is too gross to lay hold on such subtle immaterial beings; we are for the most part still in the dark, as to the certain understanding either of the Natures of those imbodied essences, or the manner of their operations; However, most certain it is that those whom Lucifer's pride has involv'd in the same Lake of perdition with himself, are possest with an implacable envy and malice towards mankind, still plotting and restlesly contriving our Disturbance and Ruine; yet shall we not impose upon the Readers opinion, or so far prostitute our own, as to ascribe the strange occurrences we are going to relate, to the management of Spirits; but nakedly rehearsing the truth of the matter of fact as it happened, leave every one to descant thereupon according to his private fansie.

The House where the scene of this Trouble is laid, is situate in an Alley by *London*-Wall, inhabited by a Gentlewoman of good credit and conversation, who has several Children, and with her also dwelt her Sister, and this was all the Family. On Friday last, being the Third of this instant *March*, the Mistress of the house found several pieces of Linnen cut and mangled; and having a little Boy of about Five years of age, she presently concluded it was done by his wantonness; whereupon (being somewhat angry) she chid him, and to fright him from doing so any more, tied him fast by the arm to a place in the Kitchin, in her sight, and so kept him for a considerable time: But whilst the poor innocent Child was thus a Prisoner for this supposed Crime, his Mother occasionally going up into a Chamber, found there several more things cut and spoiled in the mean time.

This much startled her, for she knew not of any Creature that had been up there since; however, supposing some envious person might have got up privately, she at last released the poor Child, being sorry she had chastized him for a thing of which she now plainly saw he was guiltless; but resolved to keep her doors fast, and have a watchful eye, that she might (if possible) catch the party that did her this mischief.

The next morning she found a pair of Gloves, with Gold fringe on top, that lay lockt up, all cut to pieces, or shatters; and much good Linnen served in the same manner before night.

On the Sunday she had more mischief done; and on the Sunday night a Gown and several Petticoats, and other Apparel, both hers and her Sisters, spoiled; and most of her Chairs all slasht to pieces, as with a knife:

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But ſtill ſhe was never able to find out or imagine which way it ſhould come to be ſo, for the Cheſts and Trunks wherein they lay were found faſt lockt, and the Clothes laid in the ſame order they left them in, only cut in ſeveral places.

On Munday morning they having a Waſher-woman there, as they were cleaning up the houſe, the Woman took three Knives they had, and laid them into a Drawer of the Dreſſer, and againſt which the VVaſher-woman with her face towards it; and offers to make oath, that no body came near it to open or meddle with it all that forenoon; yet at dinner-time going to look for the Knives, they were gone, not one of them to be found: whereupon making great ſearch for them, they at laſt happened to go up into the Garret, where they found one of them, and in a Chamber another; and the third they at laſt diſcovered in an excellent Bed, which coſt above Ten pounds, and had ſcarce been uſed; on which it had done very miſchievous execution, having cut three or four holes quite through the Clothes and Ticking, down to the very Feathers, every one as large as the Crown of a Mans Hat or bigger, and the pieces flung up and down the Room. And a pair of Stockings which the Siſter had juſt finiſhed, but not taken the Knitting-Needles out of them, were cut all along from the very Toes up to the top, only hanging together there by one ſingle thread of VVoſted, which was not cut. And indeed it was obſervable, that nothing (except the Bed) was cut clear into pieces, but ſeveral flaſhes and tatters made; yet ſo, that they ſtill held together in one place or other. There was much pure Linnen, and rich Laces abuſed in this ſort, with ſilk Petticoats, and other things to a conſiderable value.

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The good VVoman much ſurprized at theſe ſtrange Accidents and miſchiefs thus continually done her, and not being able to conjecture how it ſhould be done, on the Munday made Application to the Miniſter of the Pariſh (a worthy and learned Perſon) intreating his Advice and Prayers in this Extremity, who like a true Chriſtian Paſtor came towards the Evening with ſeveral other able perſons to the Houſe, and went to Prayer, during the performance of which Duty, a little Child being in the Room with them, on a ſudden all its Head-cloaths were hurried off, and ſcattered up and down amongſt them, and yet the Child never ſtirred its hands towards the Head, nor did any Creature touch it.

This was all that happened Remarkable at that time, after which the Miniſter having concluded Prayer, and given the VVoman and her Siſter Encouragements from Gods word to ſtrengthen their Faith, to reſiſt the Tempter, and to pray earneſtly to be delivered from his ſnares and deluſions, departed; However the Siſter would not lie any longer in the Houſe, but the VVoman her ſelf being of a brisk, clear, undaunted ſpirit, continues there ſtill, but to avoid further dammage, removed her beſt Bedding and things into another Houſe ſhe had ſtood empty hard by: There was never any thing extraordinary ſeen nor heard all this while, only ſome Neighbours affirm, that on Sunday night they heard a very ſtrange noiſe in this houſe for a long time together, but the Gentlewoman and her Siſter heard nothing.

It is further obſervable, That there was no body in the houſe but the Gentlewoman and her Siſter, and ſome very little Children, who cannot be imagined to be concerned in committing theſe miſchiefs: The Doors were careſully kept faſt, all VVindows cloſe

ſhut,

ſhut, ſearch made all over the Houſe that no body could poſſibly come in to do it. In brief, they have uſed all the Vigilance and diligence that can be thought upon, to prevent the ſame, or diſcover how it was done, But that ſtill remains a Riddle, nor have we more to add, ſave only to aſſure the Reader, That there is not any thing herein before Related, but what is well known to, and will be juſtified by ſeveral Perſons of worth and credit that went to viſit the ſaid Gentlewoman on *Monday* Night, and had all this Relation from her own mouth, and ſaw with Admiration the things damnified.

FINIS